

# The Woman's Page of The Times-Dispatch

## Valentine Celebrations

Wednesday of the past week was St. Valentine's Day. If you want to know just how the feast originated and all about the particular person who instituted the same, there are books all about the subject right on the shelf, and every magazine you pick up is telling you all about it besides. Now that we are all grown up, we are moved to celebrate various occasions in many different manners. Big boxes of flowers from your favorite suitor, bouquets from another one and a string of silly verses to finish off the whole are things that passed the days since one has turned the pages and added the birthdays.

But when I was a little girl—Kate Douglas Wiggin has said those are the six most enthralling words in the English language—we spent days making up the things we were going to do. On one occasion, I remember, when all the children in the neighborhood were arrayed in sheets and were delivering valentines at the door of every house we came to, one woman was particularly displeased. She came to the door, which, by the way, had been held for at least fifteen minutes, ringing the bell steadily all the while and cried, "Go home at once, you bad little boys; you know none of your family can go to bed till you get there!"

Of course, it was a pleasure to know one's disguise was so perfect as to be called "bad little boys," and our hearts sang within the winding sheet, stolen from the nursery bed. Just to show her how much everybody thought of her, her carriage stone was carried fully a foot to one side, and an obliging man helped take off the front gate.

Aren't children queer little souls? From door to door the crowd went begging for "something to eat" in the most approved beggar's whine, and leaving scorchings in their red and green at every house absolutely without regard for either master or man. Now, they wear any sort of fancy costume they can borrow, from a sister's silk petticoat to father's shining trousers but the effect is the same and the fun is the same, and the very same tricks go right on happening. One wakes in the morning to find door bell dinging by some several yards of wire with an odd, nonchalant manner of having half-way enjoyed the jag, too. Your gate is in somebody's yard and somebody's gate is on your front porch; comic verses with suggestions about what to do for a face such as in your possession strew the vestibule, and all the little girls and all the little boys come by to call and ate all the muffins in the pantry.

Many days bring many things and one's humor grows apace. Back in the misty afternoons with the shawl pinned over your head and fascinating black marks around your eyes—you were too young to go out at night—happiness stayed at your shoulder. Up and down the steps you went leaving the bright-colored cards and came home to supper with a regular thrill in your throat.

BRENT WITT.

## Salads for Winter.

The food value of the salad depends entirely on its ingredients. If it is a meat salad with a rich dressing, it is quite nutritious enough to form the main dish at luncheon. But if it is a fruit salad or a salad of cucumbers, tomatoes, lettuce, or similar vegetables, the principal nutritive value is found in the dressing. In planning a meal it is well to remember this. If a heavy meal is served a light salad is best, but if the salad is the main course a meat or egg salad would be very appropriate.

## Large Hats.

Hats for the evening are large, and while some have quite a flare at the sides, others are twisted and bent in such a manner that, although they fit well down upon the head, they are rolled in the front to show the hair. Because of the twists and turns of the brim they give an impression of being smaller than they really are.

## Trimming of the Tourist Hat.

There is a good deal of ribbon being used for the tourist hat. More and more grain and Roman effects are favored. Made wings and quills of bright velvet, appliqued with Turkish towel braid, soutache or cords is another smart trimming.

The dress hats designed for Palm Beach and other smart winter resorts differ very little in line from those worn at the horse show. Ostich is very much used, particularly in colors, and here again one finds the radiance shades perhaps at their best.

The flowers seen on the dress hat for the Southern gala occasions are very lovely, and are of the small and medium varieties rather than the larger bloom. Floral combinations are best liked in which roses are the dominating note. The writer has seen several very lovely hats on which roses appear, and one shows them in a very clever arrangement, a square of flat roses being applied flat to the crown, one corner of the square being in the center of the front. Still another very good arrangement is noted on a large hat, the crown of which is made of wire covered with flowers and lined by maline or any material usually used as a foundation. To get this effect, cut the crown from a pressed hat and make a wire frame the shape desired for the crown. This, by the way, is an excellent method of remodeling a hat, since it is the crown that dates a hat just as it is the sleeves that stamp a dress new or old. A bird-cage crown is the rather obvious name given this idea. It is best to use green silk wires, although not necessary to do so, since the flowers and foliage are made of wire. While the foliage it may be said in passing that flowers are more often used without than with it, this applying to small as well as large flowers.

There seems to be no change in the method of employing flowers. They are collared in tight clusters or in scanty looking garlands, these being more often placed on the crown than brim. A vast number of the flowers being used have no pretense to naturalness, since they take on hues of blues and purples and most unnatural reds, yellows and greens.—The Millinery Trade Review.

## ENGRAVING

Wedding Invitations and Stationery for all special occasions. Samples on request. Bell Book and Stationery Company, 914 East Main.



ADVANCE MODELS FOR THE SOUTH IN BAMBOO VOILE AND FLAXON.

L'Art de la Mode.

## NEW TUB FROCKS

With Novel Touches—Bare Throat Fashion Still Persists.

Some seamstresses are busy now-days. They will be still more busy when Lent comes round and the relaxation from social duties leaves women with time to devote to the preparing of such little frocks as may successfully be made at home.

There is still much of sewing done, although the abundance and the charm of cotton and linen and other inexpensive frocks within the last few years have done much toward abolishing the spring and fall sewing in the home, and most women who can do good dressmaking now prefer a business of their own or work in a large establishment to going out by the day. If they do go out they are likely to charge prices that will make their work rather expensive. Indeed, unless the women of the family are willing to sew with a saint's patience, are capable of doing it with a to-day little advantage in home dressmaking, and it is only for the freshening up of old frocks, replacing gimpes, etc., that an occasional visit from the seamstress is a boon.

And right here let it be written in letters of fire that the average seamstress, and for that matter the average dressmaker, seems to be incapable of making a transparent gimpé that will fit well. The thing is an art, but surely it may be mastered, and surely a woman who spends her time in sewing should, if possible, master it; yet not one in twenty can cut and fit and bond a gimpé so that it looks as it should.

The individual throat and chest and shoulders must be taken into account, yet yearn to wear them so, though yearning only if her throat is attractive and the low cut becoming. It is amazing to see how the simple addition of a transparent, well fitted, high colored gimpé will improve the appearance of two out of three of the women who try on the low-necked frocks.

There is nothing actually new in line among the tub frocks of the

simple sort. The skirt has a trifle more fullness, but the skirt of the sheer summer frock always did have a little fullness, and the additional fullness in linens, etc., does not jump at the eye, though it may be there in a slightly golet seam or an inverted pleat or a dounce seam yet shaped to a hint of rippling.

One finds a good many of these frocks, if dounces they may be called, sometimes joined to severely straight and plain upper skirts or linens or other trim material, sometimes added below softly full upper sections whose fulness is eased into the waistband with the thinnest of tucks, tapering down to nothingness half way between hip and knee. Sometimes, too, the little tucks run all the way down to the hem or other skirt trimming, so shaping the upper part of the skirt that it is left with no real fulness; yet has not the strained, plain air it would have without the tucks.

And then where the sheer cotton material is very soft, as in the case of fine cotton crepe or marquisette, it may perhaps be quite full, yet with heavy bottom trimming falling into the straight lines necessary.

Long lines or trimming are liked upon the waistline by a narrow waistband of the material or of inset lace or beading.

Sleeves are usually short, with some kind of turned-back cuff, although an occasional tub frock for morning shows a long sleeve and waistband. Round neck or square neck, finished just below the throat base or a slight V-shaped cut with collar or fichu finish, is customary.

The rich do not play as important a part with this sort of frock, because it is easily crushed and is attractive only when perfectly fresh, but there are many separate flat fichu collars of fine hand embroidery lingerie and lace or plain hemstitched mull or white satin along youthful and simple lines, at the same time smart and becoming.—Exchange.

## Wedding Costume

The costume worn by Miss Martha Harrison on the occasion of her marriage to Harry Williams, this month, like everything else connected with this particular ceremony, was a model of elegance and good taste. This handsome young granddaughter of the late President Benjamin Harrison, whose infancy was passed in the White House nursery, was married in white crepe, embroidered in large silk roses, but with a permanent beauty and style much appreciated in these days of rapid changes. Of rich cream tone, the gown followed a princess foundation of white satin, with its long court train hung from its shoulders, in an up-to-date mantel effect.

Superb point lace, which originally appeared on the wedding gown of the bride's mother, formed a long, narrow panel extending to the bottom of the skirt in front as well as on the bertha crossing the shoulders with a border for the round train. The V-shaped neck was finished in tulle, which also formed the elbow sleeves under the full of lace. In addition to its historic association and interest, this gown was modish in the extreme, with its details all in line with the smartest of 1912 fashion.

Miss Harrison's ornaments were also a happy combination of past and present traditions. The large pendant worn had for its centre stone a diamond from the White House. A diamond star was the gift of her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Saunders, widow of the former Senator from Nebraska, while another ornament, a bar of large white diamonds, was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Lincoln, the former a kinsman of the bride through her mother.

The young cousins who attended Miss Harrison as bridesmaids—Miss Alice Lewis, of Cincinnati, and Miss Katherine May Brooks, of Washington—both great-nieces of the late President and Mrs. Harrison, wore delicate gowns of pale pink chiffon over white satin along youthful and simple lines, at the same time smart and becoming.—Exchange.

## Gathered Here and There

A quaint device for a girl in mourning is a box of a dozen black sticks of sealing wax and a seal with a miniature urn and cypress copied from an old "mourning piece."

For quite young children a stamp with a single initial can be bought at small cost. The letter chosen is usually that of the first name or of the "pet name." As children like sealing their letters, here is a suggestion for birthdays.

For the writing table a novel ornament bearing on the revived fad of sealing letters is a small stand of white or colored glass, mounted in silver, with an adjustable silver clasp holder in the center of the tray and silver racks for the wax at each side. The taper can be moved to any angle convenient for sealing.

From Paris comes word that a language in wax has been adopted. This pretty conceit is sure to appeal to debutantes and young girls.

For announcements of an engagement or wedding invitations a white wax is used; for ordinary invitations brown with specks of gold; for business bright red. The sentimental carry the fancy further and use ruby for secret love; green for hope; deep blue for a fit of the blues; pale green for reproach, and yellow for jealousy.

Some letter writers are provided with a four-sided real cut on the four faces of a corallian stone or carnelian. These are varied to suit individual taste, and may be a crest for formal correspondence, a monogram for business, or an appropriate motto for invitations and love affairs.

Girls vie with each other in seal devices for these seals, and old ladies are being studied for symbols and mottoes.

## A Novel Pendant.

An unusual charm for the neck or bracelet is a pendant about an inch in diameter, gold rimmed and with double crystal sides. This frames the brilliant sentimentality of a tropical butterfly, one feeling each crystal. The coloring is vivid and beautiful and the marking odd.

## A Court Uniform.

The appropriateness of uniforms for American diplomats at foreign courts is again the topic of a lively discussion in connection with the new United States ambassador at Berlin.

Ambassador John G. A. Leishman, following the custom established by one of his predecessors at Berlin, has adopted a court costume of his own and discarded the plain evening dress which is the uniform of most American civilian officials. Mr. Leishman has also put his secretarial staff in gold braid and plumed hats, and decorated them with swords.

It is said that the autocrats of the Kaiser's court prefer that Americans should so bedeck themselves, rather than appear in the imperial presence in ordinary black broadcloth. The American diplomatic uniform originated with a former American ambassador at St. Petersburg, who averred that he was tired of being mistaken for a waiter.

## A New Coat.

One of the smartest new coats for automobiling, to be used in the South or in the spring after the long fur coat is discarded, is made of white and black striped tulle, much more white than black, as the background of the material is white with a pin stripe of the black set quite far apart. The coat is double-breasted and fastens with two large white buttons. It has a rolling collar, with two broad, square lapels and big, loose sleeves, on the outer side of which the stripe runs diagonally. The sleeves are caught in somewhat closely around the cuff by a strap of black velvet fastened with two white buttons. The coat is very large, loose and comfortable. With it, for an ideal motor outfit, are shown a frock of white Bedford cord, white suede shoes and a small black plush hat with a white cocked.

## Palms and Ferns.

Palms require good soil—a soil in which corn would flourish. They do not need a great deal of pot room, and should be repotted very seldom. But they should have an abundance of water, and should never be allowed to get dry. Too much sunlight will have the effect of discoloring the leaves; too little water also takes away the green color. It is a good plan to water the plants with water of the same temperature as the room, and sponge both sides of the leaves with tepid water as often as they become dusty.

## A Theatre Bag

Pasteboard bottoms for bags, boxes, opera bags and book covers are generally used, but half the women who cover them do not know how to do it quickly.

Unless you have sharp knives and a straight eye it is cheaper to have the boards cut. This can be done at a box manufactory, a book bindery or a picture framer's, and the cost should be small. Do not use boards that are too light, as they warp and break. There is no necessity to sew through them, so thickness makes no difference in the covering.

Never put any material over a cardboard without an interlining of cotton wadding. This is pasted smoothly on the top of form and just enough edge is left to turn in with the covering material. About a quarter of an inch is enough.

When intended for work bags, handkerchief cases, or anything that is to be scented, slip the sachet between the layers of the cotton before pasting. In this way there is no danger of the dark powder showing through the covering.

If the covering is plain, cutting it is simple. The pasteboard is placed on the wrong side of the material and its shape traced with a soft pencil. Half or three-quarters of an inch is then cut beyond this line. Where a figured material is chosen it must be fitted to the board by slipping it under the material as it lies when finished. Hold firmly in place and reverse the material, tracing the line on wrong side and cutting beyond it as directed.

The cover may be pasted on the wrong side, but there is less danger of slipping if the edges are sewed. The easiest way to do this is to run a gathering string in the space beyond the outline. Work on the wrong side to follow the line and put the gather—which is not drawn up in working—about a quarter of an inch beyond the pencil mark.

## Mourning Hats.

New mourning hats are made of taffeta, grenadine, faille and crepe. A black taffeta hat with a very high draped crown and a flat scoop brim was trimmed with a ruche of white taffeta standing stiffly up one side like a wing. This, of course, was not for full mourning. A high-crowned toque was draped with crepe finished with three high loops on one side. The toque was bordered with two narrow ruches of pleated black net. Another smart new mourning toque was of crepe with a deep plain crown and a very wide double ruche for border. This hat had very much the effect of a Charlotte Corday. One-half of the ruche stands up against the crown and the other falls down around the face. A wreath of jet ornaments encircles the crown, running through the centre of the ruche.

## Handsome Slipper Buckles.

Slipper buckles are no longer inconspicuous affairs, but have become a striking part of the evening costume. Almost every woman possesses at least one pair of these buckles, which she transfers from one pair of slippers to another. The ornaments set with brilliants are the handsomest, and as oval shape will be found more generally becoming to the foot than either a round or square buckle. One of the prettiest designs is oval and has a lace-like border studded with tiny brilliants. Over a black satin slipper this ornament looks almost regal, while on a pink or blue satin covered toe it is enchanting. Silver buckles for street wear are coming in with the early spring fashions and women who buy their shoes and pumps already supplied with silver buckles are having these removed and are replacing them with solid silver buckles, because the latter do not rust and can be polished time after time. There are silver buckle effects which pin on the shoe instead of having to be sewed on, and this arrangement makes them much easier to manipulate. If one owns a single pair which must do service on slippers of different colors, the buckle can be pinned over a plain satin toe or be used to centre a fancy chiffon or lace rosette.

## Straight-Line Negligees.

Negligee and indoor garments follow the line of costumes for more ceremonious occasions. All fullness is cut out of the skirt section, and straight-line gored skirt patterns are replacing the former pleated and gathered styles. Oriental and classic ideas prevail, and high colorings are preferred to the delicate shades that have usually characterized indoor dress. Plain materials will be more fashionable than fancy ones. Only a few printed borders are seen.

Evening wraps have furnished many ideas for the set design in indoor dress and garments this season. The lounging coat is modeled very much on the same lines as the outdoor garment. Success has been won by those extremely simple one-piece, coat-like garments, which wrap the figure like a kimono. They are sufficiently different in design to bear the stamp of novelty. Some of the most attractive models are reversible, one side being of a very quiet color, the other in a brilliant contrast.

Popular negligee garments are trimmed in fichu style, as a natural result after the great vogue of these effects in costumes. The new straight-cut one-piece dresses which slip over the head, fastening on the shoulders, have also been copied from ideas prevalent in costumes. The one-piece sleeve, half and three-quarters length, continues desirable in all indoor garments.

## Make the Liver Do its Duty

Nine times in ten when the liver is right the stomach and bowels are right.

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Cure Constipation, Indigestion, Biliousness, Headache, and Distress after Eating.

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